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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

96-HOUR REPORT**28 MAY 2019**

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – Sailor Admits Contacting Russians, Pleads Guilty to Espionage Charges

(U) A US sailor has pleaded guilty to two counts of espionage and was sentenced to three years in prison after admitting he took classified information about the Navy's nuclear-powered warships and planned to give it to a journalist and then defect to Russia. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Stephen Kellogg III wished to publish an expose on waste within the military and admitted he wanted to share the information with Russians. According to Navy court documents, Kellogg, 26, was in contact with Sevmash, Russia's largest shipbuilding enterprise. He admitted that he knew releasing the information could degrade the ability of nuclear-powered warships and therefore cause injury to the United States. SOURCE: 24 May 2019, [Associated Press](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – 19 Arrested and Poppy Field Near US Mexico Border Destroyed

(U) Tucson – Mexican officials destroyed a poppy field, seized more than 250 pounds of narcotics, and arrested 19 people over the weekend west of Nogales, during a joint operation aided by US Customs and Border Protection. Over four days, CBP officials, including US Border Patrol and Air and Marine Operations agents, worked with Mexico's Federal Police Force to raid mountaintop camp sites used by smugglers just south of the international border. Mexican police raided the scout sites, while agents with the US Border Patrol's Foreign Operations Branch and Special Operations Detachment units provided surveillance from Arizona and detained smugglers who attempted to flee into the US during the raids.

SOURCE: 23 May 2019, [Tucson Sentinel](#)

(U) Texas – Border Patrol Agents Apprehend Double Smuggling Load

(U) Del Rio – US Border Patrol agents assigned to the Brackettville Station arrested two US citizens and nine illegal aliens during a failed smuggling attempt involving two vehicles. On 23 May, agents observed two vehicles driving in tandem on a remote road near Brackettville. Agents initiated a traffic stop on the first vehicle. After an immigration inspection, agents determined the driver, a 55-year-old female, was attempting to smuggle six illegal aliens. Additional agents immediately followed and performed a traffic stop on the second vehicle. Agents determined the driver, a 58-year-old female, was attempting to smuggle three illegal aliens. The nine individuals being smuggled consisted of seven single adult males and two adult females, all from Mexico. All subjects were taken to the Brackettville Station where they will be processed as per US Customs and Border Protection guidelines.

SOURCE: 25 May 2019, [CBP](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – ISIS Supporter Back Behind Bars After Serving 18 Months in Federal Prison

(U) Fort Pierce – A known Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) supporter was arrested last week, not

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even one day after being released from prison. According to the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, deputies and the FBI arrested 28-year-old Charlton Edward LaChase for making ISIS-related terrorist threats. Court records in 2018 show LaChase was convicted after sending text messages professing his support for ISIS and threatening to kill several people while committing acts of terrorism and mass murder. Authorities found LaChase at his home, he was booked into the St. Lucie County Jail, where deputies say he'll stay until he appears in federal court.

SOURCE: 24 May 2019, [CBS 12](#)

(U) Florida – Coast Guard Seizes \$41 Million in Cocaine

(U) Jacksonville – The US Coast Guard Cutter Valiant has returned to its home port at Naval Station Mayport after a nine-week counter-drug patrol in the eastern Pacific. The agency announced yesterday that the crew patrolled over 14,000 nautical miles in support of the Joint Interagency Task Force South. While on patrol, the crew interdicted two go-fast smuggling boats, seized 2,718 pounds of cocaine worth over \$41 million and captured three suspected drug smugglers.

SOURCE: 27 May 2019, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Georgia – US Measles Outbreak Grows With 60 New Measles Cases Across 26 States

(U) Atlanta – The US recorded 60 new measles cases last week, taking confirmed cases for the year to 940, the worst outbreak since 1994 and since measles was declared eliminated in 2000, federal health officials said yesterday. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported a 6.8% increase in the number of measles cases in the week ended 24 May in an outbreak that has now reached 26 states. Experts warn that the outbreak is not over as the number of cases edges closer to the 1994 total of 958. That was the highest number since 1992, when the CDC recorded 2,126 cases.

SOURCE: 27 May 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – 23 Killed in Taliban Attack**

(U) Kabul – Afghan officials say two Taliban attacks targeted Afghan security checkpoints in the country's west and east, killing at least 23 members of the security forces. In western Ghor province, Abdul Hai Khateby, the governor's spokesman, says 18 policemen and pro-government militiamen were killed and seven were wounded in hours-long gun battle with insurgents near Feroz Koh, the provincial capital. In eastern Logar province, a provincial councilman, says insurgents overran an army checkpoint in the district of Baraki Barak killing five soldiers there. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the Logar attack.

SOURCE: 28 May 2019, [Associated Press](#)

(U) France – Authorities Arrest Four Over Blast

(U) Lyon – French police have arrested a 24-year-old Algerian computer student suspected of planting a bomb in Lyon last week that wounded 13 people. Three other people were also arrested in connection with the case, which is being treated as a terrorism investigation. A man was spotted by security cameras leaving the explosive device, with screws and metal balls packed into a paper bag, in a pedestrian shopping street in the central French city a minute before it exploded. Police found the man thanks to security camera footage that showed a partially masked man wheeling a bike to the scene before leaving a bag outside a bakery.

SOURCE: 27 May 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – 4 Police Killed, Others Wounded in Gang Attack

(U) Mexico City – Local authorities say four police officers were killed and seven others wounded in gang attacks in western Mexico. The Michoacan state prosecutors' office said attackers opened fire on one

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patrol vehicle and then twice ambushed reinforcements that were sent in to help. The prosecutors' office did not identify which gang was behind the attack in the city of Zamora. However, prosecutors said one of the attackers' trucks had been found and local media published photos of the pickup with the letters "CJNG" on its door. Those are the Spanish initials of the violent Jalisco New Generation Cartel.

SOURCE: 27 May 2019, [Associated Press](#)

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